

# Huntly and District Development Trust

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*"Working with others to build a resilient, inclusive, enterprising community capable of dealing with ongoing change."*

## Approved Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2016 19.00-21.00**

**HDDT Office, Brander Building, The Square, Huntly**

**Present** Les Allan (LA, Chair), Sharon Scapens (SS), Mary Scott (MS), Jamie Wilkinson (JW)  
**In Attendance** Donald Boyd (DB), Debbie Haefner (DH, Minutes), Elaine Murray (EM, Observer)  
**Apologies** Bruce Murray (BM), Iain Ralston (IR)

Ref	Item	Action	By When
1	<b>Welcome, apologies and introductions</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LA welcomed all to the meeting and noted the apologies.</li> <li>Special welcome was given to newly appointed Board member Jamie Wilkinson and to Elaine Murray, who came along as an observer with a view to joining the Board.</li> <li>Thanks to BM and all authors for pulling together the latest newsletter at short notice. Also thanks to all directors and staff for their input at the AGM</li> </ul>		
2	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting</b>		
	Previous minutes were approved with two amendments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Point 3. The demolition warrant cost £100 not £1000.</li> <li>Point 6. NA is a Greenmyres working group member.</li> </ul>		
3	<b>Finance Report</b>		
	DB presented the financial report for 2016/17 with a look ahead to 2017/18. Key points to note were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Temporary breach of employment liability level is reversed as soon as first Cairnborrow annual payment comes in (estimated at March). We are due to payout 25% of this to Glass/Cairnie but this is not likely to happen for several months during the course of 2017/18</li> <li>Greenmyres wind income (taken from Clydesdale Bank model) has been estimated to come in in December 2017, although this could be earlier and a higher amount as the figure is based on pessimistic wind resource</li> <li>Repayment of Networks of Wellbeing loan to help us purchase Greenmyres has been requested. With interest this will be ca £22,500 when repaid</li> <li>Clashindarroch loan for £25,000 has arrived in our account</li> <li>First Wheedlemont income projected to come in in Dec 2017</li> <li>2017/18 figures include for successful Climate Challenge Fund bid to secure vehicles for a further year</li> </ul>		

<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>Development Manager's Update</b></p> <p>DB provided an update – please see appendix for full details.</p> <p>Requests / Approvals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approval in principle for 2 submissions to Climate Challenge Fund: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Car Club vehicles - <b>YES</b></li> <li>• Energy saving/fuel poverty initiative - <b>YES</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Approval to continue discussions with LEADER with a view to developing a town (centre) regeneration project - <b>YES</b></li> <li>3. Approval to progress conversion of cheque-based approach to BACS approach and to apply for business credit/debit cards, accompanied by development of rules/limits re delegated spend. Proposal to be tabled at December Board meeting - <b>YES</b></li> <li>4. Agree to another Board Away Day/future planning session (date tbc) – <b>YES</b></li> <li>5. Frequency of Board meetings to be changed to monthly – <b>YES</b> (starting in 2017)</li> </ol>		
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>Update from Working Groups</b></p> <p><b>1. Greenmyres (Mary &amp; Sharon)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SS had various meetings re fishing, one with Richie Miller, Senior Biologist, Deveron, Bogie and Isla River's Trust to discuss potential fishing ventures next season, and another meeting with Phil Gaiter, Head Teacher at The Gordon Schools and Lada Copic, CLD Officer to discuss fishing days out for young, vulnerable people to help learn and develop new skills. This was very welcomed by the Board.</li> <li>• SS met with Marc Ellington who runs the NE Traditional Skills Centre at Fyvie. He is interested in a potential skills learning event.</li> <li>• SS went to a Rural Housing seminar. Agreed to 'champion' housing during future Greenmyres planning session.</li> <li>• MS – Funding for the path leading to Gartly Moor is to be resubmitted.</li> <li>• A successful event was held on 16<sup>th</sup> September re Bats, Moths &amp; Stars, other events will be planned for next year.</li> <li>• The shelter belt of trees is on hold for now due to water supply issues – this needs to be resolved asap.</li> </ul> <p><b>2. Sports (Health and Wellbeing) (Bruce)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Room to Run – very successful with over 600 people in the town square at Hairst. Aiming for over 1000 entrants for next year event. Hairst stands took in £40k on the day (figure from Hairst)</li> <li>• Sports Strategy - Stage 2 report almost there. We have held lots of discussions with Aberdeenshire Council, AB54 Health &amp; Wellbeing Group, Huntly Sports Trust (HST) and Huntly Football Club (HFC). HFC determined that any project should involve Christie Park but need a body to back it and front it – it can't be them. They are proposing that an overall Sports Hub organisation run it. They have approached us and also the Sports Trust to use our charitable status but the Sports Trust is not keen to get involved and meeting held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October agreed to meet the club again this Thursday, HST keen for Meadows development now that flood defences contractor appointed and work completed in 2017. In the meantime, HFC has decided to do its own thing and could jeopardise our project. They will be announcing this week in HE despite agreeing to hold further discussions with HST and ourselves. Aberdeenshire Council have agreed to mediate otherwise we'll both end up with nothing</li> <li>• Concept drawings were to be made available for public review at Farmers market in Nov or December.</li> </ul>		

	<p><b>3. Promoting Huntly (Neil)</b> No update available. Group agreed to merge this into a future town regeneration working group.</p> <p><b>4. Membership Development (Sharon)</b> Automatic membership via the angling is hoped to increase membership. DH noted that automatic membership via e-bike hire is also available and that a similar initiative is planned for Greenmyres share offer.</p>		
<b>6</b>	<b>Board / Governance</b>		
	<p><b>Directors:</b> All must help seek additional Directors, this is very important.</p>	<b>ALL</b>	
<b>7</b>	<b>2017 Board Meeting Dates</b>		
	DB/DH to suggest dates, with a change to monthly meetings and perhaps alternative Tuesday's / Wednesday's (TBC)	<b>DB/DH</b>	
<b>8</b>	<b>AOCB</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MS said that she'd received complaints from walkers using the Jubilee Path, that the bench / cairn area is very overgrown. This is HDDT's responsibility, a date will be set to go and tidy it up.</li> <li>Paths Project – JW agreed to take on the lead responsibility for an AB54 paths project. He will liaise with JA, DB, SS, MS and NM and present a proposal to the Board at the next meeting.</li> <li>Gartly Community Action Plan – HDDT have been invited to attend to this meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 7pm in the Tin Hut and host a display table. LA agreed to go.</li> </ul>	<p><b>MS/DB</b></p> <p><b>JW</b></p> <p><b>LA</b></p>	
<b>9</b>	<b>Close of Meeting</b>		
	LA closed the Board meeting at 21.00		